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Financing of the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo

Report of the Fifth Committee

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I. Introduction

1. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 21 September 2007, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its sixty-second session the item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo" and to allocate it to the Fifth Committee.

2. The Fifth Committee considered the item at its 41st and 51st meetings, on 15 May and 13 June 2008. Statements and observations made in the course of the Committee's consideration of the item are reflected in the relevant summary records (A/C.5/62/SR.41 and 51).

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on the financial performance of the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo for the period from 1 July 2006 to 30 June 2007 (A/62/737);

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on the budget for the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo for the period from 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009 (A/62/755);

(c) Related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/62/781/Add.8).

* Reissued for technical reasons.

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II. Consideration of draft resolution A/C.5/62/L.48

4. At its 51st meeting, on 13 June, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled "Financing of the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo" (A/C.5/62/L.48), submitted by the Chairman on the basis of informal consultations coordinated by the representative of Canada.

5. Before the consideration of the draft resolution, the Secretary of the Committee orally corrected the draft resolution as follows:

(a) In operative paragraph 1, after the date "30 June 2006", the word "and" was added and the phrase "and 62/_____" was deleted;

(b) In operative paragraph 20, after "60/266", the word "and" was added and the phrase "and 62/_____" was deleted.

6. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.5/62/L.48, as orally corrected, without a vote (see para. 7).

III. Recommendation of the Fifth Committee

7. The Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Financing of the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo

The General Assembly,

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo[1] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[2]

Recalling Security Council resolutions 1258 (1999) of 6 August 1999 and 1279 (1999) of 30 November 1999 regarding, respectively, the deployment to the region of the Democratic Republic of the Congo of military liaison personnel and the establishment of the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and the subsequent resolutions by which the Council extended the mandate of the Mission, the latest of which was resolution 1794 (2007) of 21 December 2007, by which the Council extended the mandate of the Mission until 31 December 2008,

Recalling also its resolution 54/260 A of 7 April 2000 on the financing of the Mission and its subsequent resolutions thereon, the latest of which was resolution 61/281 of 29 June 2007,

Recalling further its resolution 58/315 of 1 July 2004,

Reaffirming the general principles underlying the financing of United Nations peacekeeping operations, as stated in General Assembly resolutions 1874 (S-IV) of 27 June 1963, 3101 (XXVIII) of 11 December 1973 and 55/235 of 23 December 2000,

Noting with appreciation that voluntary contributions have been made to the Mission,

Mindful of the fact that it is essential to provide the Mission with the financial resources necessary to enable it to fulfil its responsibilities under the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General to entrust the Head of Mission with the task of formulating future budget proposals in full accordance with the provisions of General Assembly resolutions 59/296 of 22 June 2005, 60/266 of 30 June 2006 and 61/276 of 29 June 2007, as well as other relevant resolutions;

2. *Takes note* of the status of contributions to the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo as at 31 March 2008, including the contributions outstanding in the amount of 343.6 million United States dollars, representing some 7 per cent of the total assessed contributions, notes

[1] A/62/737 and A/62/755.

[2] A/62/781/Add.8.

with concern that only thirty-six Member States have paid their assessed contributions in full, and urges all other Member States, in particular those in arrears, to ensure payment of their outstanding assessed contributions;

3. *Expresses its appreciation* to those Member States which have paid their assessed contributions in full, and urges all other Member States to make every possible effort to ensure payment of their assessed contributions to the Mission in full;

4. *Expresses concern* at the financial situation with regard to peacekeeping activities, in particular as regards the reimbursements to troop contributors that bear additional burdens owing to overdue payments by Member States of their assessments;

5. *Also expresses concern* at the delay experienced by the Secretary-General in deploying and providing adequate resources to some recent peacekeeping missions, in particular those in Africa;

6. *Emphasizes* that all future and existing peacekeeping missions shall be given equal and non-discriminatory treatment in respect of financial and administrative arrangements;

7. *Also emphasizes* that all peacekeeping missions shall be provided with adequate resources for the effective and efficient discharge of their respective mandates;

8. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to make the fullest possible use of facilities and equipment at the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy, in order to minimize the costs of procurement for the Mission;

9. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[2] subject to the provisions of the present resolution, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure their full implementation;

10. *Decides* to establish two P-3 posts for the Conduct and Discipline Team and one P-3 position to be funded from general temporary assistance;

11. *Also decides* not to abolish the eight P-3 posts and two National Officer posts of the Child Protection Section, and requests the Secretary-General to make every effort to fill all vacancies in the Child Protection Section;

12. *Notes with concern* that the Mission continues to experience high vacancy and staff turnover rates, and urges the Secretary-General to ensure the expeditious recruitment for all positions to ensure mandate delivery, including for the upcoming elections;

13. *Acknowledges with appreciation* that the use of the logistics hub in Entebbe, Uganda, has been cost-effective and has resulted in savings for the United Nations, and welcomes the expansion of the logistics hub to provide logistical support to peacekeeping operations in the region and to contribute further to their enhanced efficiency and responsiveness, taking into account the ongoing efforts in this regard;

14. *Notes* that there has been cooperation among the missions to explore new avenues for achieving greater synergies in the use of the resources of the

Organization, including the concept of a regional support base in Entebbe for the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the United Nations Integrated Office in Burundi and the United Nations Mission in the Sudan, bearing in mind that individual missions are responsible for the preparation and implementation of their own budgets and for controlling their assets and logistical operations;

15. *Decides* to establish the post of Coordination Assistant (Field Service) for the Office of the Deputy Special Representative;

16. *Decides also* to establish the post of Administrative Officer (P-3) in the Office of the Special Representative;

17. *Underlines* that the temporary positions required for the local elections shall serve solely for that purpose and that the deployment shall be aligned to the schedule of the election;

18. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure close coordination with the United Nations country team in order to ensure integration of efforts in the support of the forthcoming local elections in the Democratic Republic of the Congo;

19. *Takes note* of paragraph 23 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, and recalls paragraph 17, section II, of its resolution 61/244 of 22 December 2006, in which it acknowledged that the interaction of United Nations personnel with the local population in the field is essential and that language skills constitute an important element of the selection and training processes and therefore affirmed that a good command of the official language(s) spoken in the country of residence should be taken into account as an additional asset during those processes;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure the full implementation of the relevant provisions of its resolutions 59/296, 60/266 and 61/276;

21. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to take all necessary action to ensure that the Mission is administered with a maximum of efficiency and economy;

22. *Further requests* the Secretary-General, in order to reduce the cost of employing General Service staff, to continue efforts to recruit local staff for the Mission against General Service posts, commensurate with the requirements of the Mission;

Financial performance report for the period from 1 July 2006 to 30 June 2007

23. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the financial performance of the Mission for the period from 1 July 2006 to 30 June 2007;[3]

Budget estimates for the period from 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009

24. *Decides* to appropriate to the Special Account for the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo the amount of 1,242,729,000 dollars for the period from 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009, inclusive of 1,187,676,400 dollars for the maintenance of the Mission, 47,991,000 dollars for the

[3] A/62/737.

support account for peacekeeping operations and 7,061,600 dollars for the United Nations Logistics Base;

Financing of the appropriation

25. *Decides also* to apportion among Member States the amount of 621,364,500 dollars for the period from 1 July to 31 December 2008, in accordance with the levels updated in General Assembly resolution 61/243 of 22 December 2006, and taking into account the scale of assessments for 2008, as set out in its resolution 61/237 of 22 December 2006;

26. *Decides further* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 25 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the amount of 14,584,200 dollars, comprising the estimated staff assessment income of 11,999,600 dollars approved for the Mission, the prorated share of 2,305,600 dollars of the estimated staff assessment income approved for the support account and the prorated share of 279,000 dollars of the estimated staff assessment income approved for the United Nations Logistics Base;

27. *Decides* to apportion among Member States the amount of 621,364,500 dollars for the period from 1 January to 30 June 2009 at a monthly rate of 103,560,750 dollars, in accordance with the levels updated in General Assembly resolution 61/243, and taking into account the scale of assessments for 2009, as set out in its resolution 61/237, subject to a decision of the Security Council to extend the mandate of the Mission;

28. *Decides also* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X), there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 27 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the amount of 14,584,200 dollars, comprising the estimated staff assessment income of 11,999,600 dollars approved for the Mission, the prorated share of 2,305,600 dollars of the estimated staff assessment income approved for the support account and the prorated share of 279,000 dollars of the estimated staff assessment income approved for the United Nations Logistics Base;

29. *Decides further* that, for Member States that have fulfilled their financial obligations to the Mission, there shall be set off against their apportionment, as provided for in paragraph 25 above, their respective share of the unencumbered balance and other income in the total amount of 61,577,300 dollars in respect of the financial period ended 30 June 2007, in accordance with the levels updated in General Assembly resolution 61/243, and taking into account the scale of assessments for 2007, as set out in its resolution 61/237;

30. *Decides* that, for Member States that have not fulfilled their financial obligations to the Mission, there shall be set off against their outstanding obligations their respective share of the unencumbered balance and other income in the total amount of 61,577,300 dollars in respect of the financial period ended 30 June 2007, in accordance with the scheme set out in paragraph 29 above;

31. *Decides also* that the increase of 1,225,500 dollars in the estimated staff assessment income in respect of the financial period ended 30 June 2007 shall be added to the credits from the amount of 61,577,300 dollars referred to in paragraphs 29 and 30 above;

32. *Emphasizes* that no peacekeeping mission shall be financed by borrowing funds from other active peacekeeping missions;

33. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to continue to take additional measures to ensure the safety and security of all personnel participating in the Mission under the auspices of the United Nations, bearing in mind paragraphs 5 and 6 of Security Council resolution 1502 (2003) of 26 August 2003;

34. *Invites* voluntary contributions to the Mission in cash and in the form of services and supplies acceptable to the Secretary-General, to be administered, as appropriate, in accordance with the procedure and practices established by the General Assembly;

35. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-third session the item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo".